



DATE: November 10, 2006

TO: Andrew T. Souza

FROM: Rhonda Jorn, Public Affairs Officer

FOR: Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT: CITYWIDE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

The *Citywide Weekly Report* highlights various activities throughout the City for the week. Consistent with our mission to ensure equal access to opportunity, education, and quality of life for every man, woman and child regardless of their race, religion, age or socio-economic status, this report will work to organize our weekly achievements so that we can measure and maximize our management and performance toward reaching our goals. It is our intent that this report will help to improve communications about the programs and services provided to both the City Council and the community.

Please feel free to contact the Public Affairs Department with any questions.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Christmas Tree Shopping Super- Sized

- Fleet Management, Facilities Management and the City Manager's office recently joined representatives from the City of Corcoran and Southern California Edison to select this year's City Hall Christmas tree. In the spirit of the holidays, Dick Hale, the Vice-Mayor of Corcoran, volunteered his crew and a crane to help us with the harvesting of our tree while they are securing theirs, on November 18th. Earlier in the week Fleet Management and Streets Maintenance personnel visited the City of Corcoran to review the equipment they use to move a tree of this size. Fleet Management is currently preparing similar equipment to be used in bringing our tree down the mountain and is fabricating special fixtures to secure the tree to the truck for its trip.

UPCOMING EVENTS and PROJECTS

DPU Food Drive

- Wastewater Management Division has organized a can food drive for Community Food Bank. Their goal is at least 1000 cans of food. Manager, Steve Hogg challenges other City Departments to match or exceed Wastewater's collections. Community Sanitation has a donation barrel for nonperishable food for the Salvation Army. The barrel is located inside their offices in building E. Contact Denise Buckley for information.

WEEKLY NEWS

KEY RESULT AREA: PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire

- Four-person staffing began Monday, November 6. The fourth firefighter was added to Engine Companies 3, 5, 8, and 12 and to Truck Companies 1 and 3.
- Measure B (regionalization of the North Central Fire Protection District) received two-thirds of the vote on Tuesday, November 7. Preparations are being made for the transition to be effective July 1, 2007.
- Meetings are being held between the City of Fresno and the County of Fresno to develop an agreement for fire protection to the county islands located within the city limits.
- From November 3 through November 9 at 1430 hours, fire crews responded to 534 incidents.

Police

Gang Arrests

- Central District officers made a traffic stop at Weldon and Teilman. The passenger, a 20 year old Bulldog gang member was found to be on California Youth Authority parole. A search of the vehicle revealed 5 grams of rock cocaine, marijuana, scales and packaging materials. Garcia was arrested for the sales and transportation of the narcotics. Officers transported the suspect to his residence and conducted a parole search of his room. Upon searching, officers located an AK-47 assault rifle, two multi-round magazines and numerous 7.62 rounds of ammunition. The suspect was booked for transportation, sales, possession of narcotics as well as numerous counts of a felon in possession of ammunition, felon in possession of a firearm and an assault rifle.
- Southeast District Officers responded to a murder at Aldo's Bar in southwest Fresno. The victim had been shot to death. The suspects were described as Bulldog gang members, and were last seen leaving the scene in three different

vehicles, each containing multiple suspects. SE District Officers canvassed several areas and eleven suspects were taken into custody (10 adults and 1 juvenile). It was determined the suspects and vehicles were in fact involved. After contacting homicide detectives, all of the eleven suspects were arrested for murder and are all Bulldog gang members.

KEY RESULT AREA: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Public Utilities

National Safety Council to Recognize Sewer Division

- On November 8, 2006, the Sewer Maintenance Division celebrated the milestone of three years without a lost time injury which ran from November 7, 2003 to November 7, 2006. The Division will be receiving recognition from the National Safety Council.

KEY RESULT AREA: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

There's More Than One Way to Train a Workforce

- Economic Development Department staff often hear from client companies how important it is to have a state-of-the-art trained workforce. Department staff met with a representative from Fresno City College (FCC) regarding FCC's training center. Staff learned about the programs that FCC is able to offer to Fresno businesses to help them upgrade their employees' skills and prepare them for success as companies grow and expand in Fresno, but compete in a global market.

Australian Consulate Visit

- The Economic Development Department hosted a 2 day visit by the Australian Consul-General and Trade Commissioner, Mr. David Lawson. The purpose of Mr. Lawson's Fresno visit was to initiate and build business relationships that will mutually benefit Australian and U.S. businesses, to introduce Australia's new District Manager, Brian Carnahan, and to meet Central Valley government officials and business leaders.
The Economic Development Department will work closely with the Australian Trade Commission to bring even more companies to the 2007 World Trade Expo and to open even more opportunities for trade exchanges between these two countries.

Enterprise Zone Approved

- The City of Fresno received a conditional designation for a new State Enterprise Zone on Friday, 11/3/06! This highly coveted designation will allow even more companies in the City to take advantage of a multitude of State tax incentives available to Enterprise Zone businesses. The original City of Fresno Enterprise Zone, designated in 1986, provided benefits to approximately 5,000 local businesses located primarily in the City's downtown area. The new zone, which should be finalized within the next few months, is expected to cover

approximately 15,000 businesses and include areas in the northern part of the City as well.

KEY RESULT AREA: ONE FRESNO

Public Utilities

Community Sanitation Helps With Veteran's Day Parade

- Community Sanitation crews will help with the success of the November 11th Veteran's Day Parade by cleaning the area before and after the parade. The Fresno Veteran's Day parade is the largest known in the United States, so the crews will have plenty to do.

KEY RESULT AREA: CUSTOMER SERVICE

General Services

Clearing the Air at Wastewater

- Last week Fleet Management received City Council approval to enter into a grant agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to retrofit 4 of Wastewater's heavy off-road equipment with exhaust after-treatment devices and purchase a solar-powered trailer to regenerate the after-treatment devices when they build up excessive soot. The grant for \$110,000 is part of a larger plan that includes re-powering the equipment with modern tier III engines. The engine swap and addition of after-treatment devices will not only extend the life of this expensive equipment, but also improve fuel economy, power and reduce emissions. The equipment will be some of the cleanest off-road equipment in the nation. This pioneering effort will provide valuable data on the ability to convert off-road equipment to meet stringent future clean-air standards.

Public Works

Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)

- Phase 3 work began in early September, and the contractor is installing 80+ miles of fiberoptic cable along Herndon, Kings Canyon, Willow, Chestnut and Shaw Avenues. Within the next 6 months, over 100 additional signals will be hooked up to a very high tech system allowing Traffic Engineering to monitor, count, and time signals in an effort to improve traffic coordination and synchronization.

Median Island Crews

- Crews Cleaned: 1.5 million sq. ft. Crews Sprayed: 5.4 million sq. ft. A total of 109 irrigation hours worked.

UGM Reimbursements

- In compliance with AB 1600 and Code requirements, Public Works Engineering Division issued bi-annual UGM developer reimbursements for the period ending Oct 31, 2006 in the amount \$532,100.

Public Works Engineering Division

- Completed the implementation of the new Access-based UGM program.

Public Works Parking Services

- Relaxed enforcement in the area surrounding the County Elections office to prevent voters from receiving tickets while casting their ballots on November 7th. Special thanks goes to Tony Heredia from the Parking Meter Shop for providing assistance with signage and time zone modifications during the weeks leading up to the election.
- Made changes to enforcement in the area surrounding the Legion of Valor Museum and in other downtown areas to accommodate events in celebration of Veterans Day. Meters were bagged to prevent parking in areas relevant to the Veterans Day parade on P Street and Fresno Street to ensure adequate space for the Judges' Booth.
- Parking Controller Stephanie Bowen responded to an urgent request from Jacob Caine in Street Maintenance to bag two metered parking spaces on M Street north of Tulare as No Stopping Zones. The removal of the spaces was necessary so Streets could red curb the area to ensure the visibility of signs necessary for safety during construction. Thanks to Stephanie for responding on short notice.
- Two new Parking Controllers, Bruce Takahashi and Mike Lewis, have been added to the enforcement team. "After dark" enforcement is crucial now that Daylight Savings time has ended. Bruce will be lending support to the evening enforcement team in Council Districts furthest from downtown. Mike will be assisting specifically with Council District patrol on day shift, including Sunday enforcement in shopping centers where many handicap violations occur.
- Mabel Selland, a resident of Council District 4 and Parking District 1 surrounding Fresno State, expressed concern regarding a memorial service for her husband she was hosting at her home that coincided with the Fresno State Football game on Saturday 11/11/06. The need for parking passes for all of her guests was addressed by Jennifer Stover and Del Estabrooke, who immediately customized 45 passes for Mrs. Selland to distribute to her guests. Councilmember Westerlund and his staff expressed gratitude for the concern and service provided to the Selland family.

Public Works Street Emergency Tree crews

- Trimmed 12 trees on W. Weldon, West of Blythe for clearance. These trees were across the street from El Captain middle school and featured in the Fresno Bee's In a Fix.
- Began removal of dead trees from the Chinatown/Downtown area. Plan to replant trees prior to Spring 2007.

Public Works Street Repair Crews

- Performed repair and overlay on approx 1/4 lane miles on Nielsen from Highway 99 to Teilman (2 lane miles, 1/8 mile section)

- Repaired Van Ness alley to address concerns from citizens. Repair performed with SC-800 asphalt mix and bladed to create a better surface.

Public Works Street No Neighborhood Left Behind (NNLB) and Special Projects

- Poured 120 cu yards concrete in NNLB 5. This amount of concrete equates to approximately a ½ mile of a 4 foot sidewalk installed in one week.
- Provided assistance to Chamber of Commerce for annual Give and Take event.
- Provided assistance with Van Ness underpass maintenance with Community volunteers on "Make a Difference Day".
- Installed curb and gutter and driveway approach at 1908 S. Orange to complete infrastructure project paid for by District 5.

Public Works Street Tree Damaged Concrete Repair Program and Wheelchair Ramp

- Poured 132 cubic yards of concrete. This amount of concrete equates to a ½ mile of a 4 foot sidewalk installed in one week.
- Crews retrofitted 4 wheelchair ramps.

Public Works Street Sign and Striping Crews

- Crews tracked, striped, and installed raised reflective pavement markers on Foxhill from Perrin to Champlain and replaced missing raised reflective pavement markers on Clinton just south of Shields.
- Installed Thermoplastic crossing at Susan B. Anthony Elementary School and Webster Elementary School.
- Maintained 453 Traffic signs; Painted approx 1/4 mile of red curb; Installed 1500 Raised reflective pavement markers; Painted 70 lane miles of center line and lane line;
- Maintained 63 pavement markings and legends; Installed 10 new street name signs in 1 new sub-division.
- Responded to 5 citizen requests, 4 requests from Traffic Engineering, 2 requests from Parking Enforcement, 1 request from City Council and 8 after hour emergencies.

Public Works Streets Traffic Signal and Streetlight Crews

- Continue working with Police Department to provide information on wire theft locations in an effort to prevent future thefts.
- Crews pulled ½ mile of street light wiring to relight areas where streetlight wires were stolen.
- Crews worked on Traffic Operations Control Center testing controllers in an effort to assist in making sure that Phase III is on schedule and safely implemented.

Public Works Traffic Engineering

- Assisted the Planning and Development Department with the first Southeast Area Growth Area listening session at Sunnyside High School. The cafeteria was full with standing room only which is a great turnout from City residents, County residents, property owners, and developers.

Street Impact Fees

- Public Works staff met with the stakeholders on November 9, 2006 for the Street Impact Fees to share mined information for the Northwest quadrant of the City and to review the Matrix summarizing the methodologies provided to the stakeholders via email the week prior. Four local engineering firms are participating in these mining efforts along with City Engineering staff. The next meeting will be Thursday, November 16, 2006 from 12-4 pm.

Public Utilities

Wastewater Laboratory Schedule Changed

- The Wastewater Management Division (WMD) Laboratory provides analytical services for the Fresno-Clovis Regional Wastewater Reclamation Facility and other City Divisions. The Laboratory moved from a Monday-Sunday schedule to a Monday-Saturday schedule. This change increases manpower during the regular work week when staff is most needed; allows cross-training opportunities on more sophisticated laboratory equipment due to adequate staffing for routine work; improves communications as there are more days on the week in which all staff is on site; and improves scheduled and unscheduled leave coverage. In addition to enhancing the Laboratory operational process, this change has been a morale booster for staff. This could have not been implemented without the support of other WMD workgroups, mainly Operations and Environmental Services, showing true spirit of cooperation in the Division.

Airports

Progress Report

- Airports' aviation director Russ Widmar attended the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Planning Conference held at The Pines Resort. Russ provided Chamber board members with an update on the Airports' annual progress including growth, the introduction of international air service, aircraft upgauge, and scheduled terminal expansion and renovation projects.